

The Hampden-Sydney Tiger

February 18, 2020

"The Hampden-Sydney student will behave as a gentleman at all times and in all places."

Issue XCX.8

Student Senate Hosts Town Hall with President Stimpert



DANIEL NIVENS '24
STAFF WRITER

On January 18, 2021, the Student Senate hosted President Larry Stimpert for a virtual town hall. Unfortunately, due to new regulations

from the Virginia Department of Health, the event was moved to Zoom only a few hours before it began. In Gilmer 019, President Stimpert was joined by the Student Senate, with Senator Alex Rubino '23 moderating the

Photo courtesy @hscstudentsenate

questions from Zoom. After a brief introduction by Senate Chairman Dylan Taylor '21, Stimpert began to answer questions dealing with Buildings and Grounds (B&G), Admissions, campus infrastructure, academics, COVID-19, and finally, his comments on two new statements from the College.

In relation to Buildings and Grounds, President Stimpert answered questions related to the cleaning of fraternity houses and wage

talking about the status of admissions and the incoming Class of '25. Prior to the inter-session break during the fall semester, there were around 2,400 applications, around 800 acceptances, and around 40 students who had submitted deposits. This was in line with some of Admissions' best years and was more than halfway to the goal of 3,500-4,000 applications.

Additionally, President Stimpert reaffirmed his commitment to make the College affordable. He expressed his intention to use half of the money raised in an upcoming, major fundraiser for financial aid. In his words, "let's work to make H-SC the place where [students] can accomplish their dreams."

The conversation about campus infrastructure returned to problems that need to be addressed. President Stimpert an-

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increases for the staff. He tied both issues back to the hiring of a new BnG director.

Currently, the plans are to hire a new director as soon as possible. He reportedly stressed to all the candidates that he wants the College to be in the business of "delighting [the students], not waiting for [them] to complain." He noted that "we owe [BnG] tremendous respect" and that the administration would be open to a pay increase after consultation with the new director.

For those living on the Circle, the President wanted them to know that they want to "fix the problem" of cleaning rather than "need to refund" the cleaning fee.

President Stimpert continued with the good news by

answered questions relating to the construction of the Pauley Science Center, Wi-Fi access on campus, and the new gates on campus. In spite of the weather difficulties, he noted that as far as he knows Pauley is on schedule to be ready for use by next spring.

He acknowledged the unsatisfactory quality of the internet access on campus but noted that the increased usage due to COVID is likely worsening the situation. The plan is and continues to be to update the network over time with other construction projects. Finally, President Stimpert heard student complaints about the newly constructed gates. He expressed his belief that the College needed to be willing

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Photo courtesy Michael Van Citters '22

Well-Handled Hoax: Campus Police Responds to Active Shooter Threat

GRAYSON HARMON '22
STAFF WRITER

On Saturday, January 23rd, 2021, the Hampden-Sydney community received an Active Shooter Threat alert at 11:39am. Students, faculty, and staff alike were instructed to "seek shelter until further notice."

What did this mean? After a brief interview with Hampden-Sydney's Officer Mark Fowler, he and Deputy Noel Malave of the Hampden-Sydney Police Department had one thing on their minds: act quickly.

After receiving an email from an anonymous source threatening to do harm to the community, Officer Fowler and Deputy Malave knew they needed to act fast to keep their campus safe.

threat, Officer Fowler was impressed by the community's positive reaction to the threat, saying, "I was extremely impressed" with the students' reaction to H-SC's ENS (Emergency Notification System) message, and noted that everyone followed lockdown procedures properly until the "all clear" alert came out at 1:19pm.

By following the advice from the active shooter presentation that H-SC students attend during freshman year and "good sense," students were able to make the jobs of those responding to the situation easier.

Moving forward, Officer Mark Fowler intends to continue educating Hampden-Sydney College's students on the dangers of active shooter situations,

Shortly after additional police arrived on campus, new information was received: the threat was a hoax.

With the aid of several local police departments, including Farmville, Prince Edward, and Longwood, the H-SC police searched the campus for someone who fit the description of the shooter described in the email. Shortly after additional police arrived on campus, new information was received: the threat was a hoax.

Although there was no serious

host different emergency-related presentations, and keep the H-SC community knowledgeable about these and other situations that might arise in the future. The hoax was treated like a real situation and the H-SC population responded quickly and in accordance with our Police Department's plans – we are in their debt to their professionalism, foresight, and preparedness.

Laying Down the (Pre-)Law: Students Seek to Recharter Pre-Law Fraternity

DRAKE KALINOWSKI '23
STAFF WRITER

The mission of Hampden-Sydney College is "To form good men and good citizens in an atmosphere of sound learning." With that in mind, it should come as no surprise that a good number of Hampden-Sydney students eventually go on to serve their communities in legal capacities.

Many students come to Hampden-Sydney with at

nity, which formally went inactive in 2014. Chavez and Jones are working to bring the fraternity, which once represented such a large piece of college life and history, back to the forefront of the College's identity.

The connection between these two organizations is understandable, as many past members of the Pre-Law Society were brothers of Phi Alpha Delta. Rechartering the fraternity would help show Hampden-Syd-

Rechartering the fraternity would help show Hampden-Sydney students who are passionate about law that they have a place in our campus community beyond the Pre-Law Society.

least a general interest in the legal field, and the college has a pair of organizations that reflect this. The Pre-Law Society of Hampden-Sydney, and Phi Alpha Delta, a pre-law fraternity.

Pre-Law Society President Lucio Chavez '22 and Acting Treasurer Nate Jones '24 are working to recharter the Phi Alpha Delta frater-

ney students who are passionate about law that they have a place in our campus community beyond the Pre-Law Society.

While the Pre-Law Society will function as a more publicly accessible arm of the Phi Alpha Delta fraternity, the fraternity itself will be a more dedicated and exclusive group, reserved

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The Hampden-Sydney Tiger

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by J. B. Wall '19

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The Hampden-Sydney Tiger is a student newspaper serving the community of Hampden-Sydney and operating independently of the College. *The Tiger* is printed biweekly by *The Farmville Herald*.

The opinions expressed in *The Tiger* belong to those expressing them and in no way reflect the official stance of *The Tiger*.

We accept submissions in the form of letters or guest columns. Brevity is encouraged. Interested writers, cartoonists, and photographers can send us an e-mail at newspaper@hsc.edu.

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MICHAEL VAN CITTERS '22
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Across:

1. 19, 21, 25 artist

5. Flaming

8. Procedures for removing lymphatic tissue

11. Androgynous syn.

12. SCOTUS member Kagan

14. Pompous or moralistic behavior

19. The moving of an organ from one body to another

25. Come after

26. In that thing (esp. a document)

28. Ways of getting around

30. Red blood cell deficiency

31. Descendent of Muhammad

Down:

1. Straightforward and un-deceiving

2. Listlessness from boredom

3. Occuring on the surface of the earth

4. Temperature superlative

6. Yellowfin tuna alter ego

7. Eight-page folded manuscript

9. Milk's favorite cookie

10. Swindling schemes

13. French "enemy"

15. Whose ark?

16. A siesta

17. 20th-century Irish paramilitary group

18. "Last month" abbv.

19. Trick or -----

20. Slow-boiled dishes

21. Tiny canine

22. Written in notation

23. Mental handicap

24. One who does not utilize something

27. Get married in secret

29. Epoch syn.



Pre-Law, cont'd

for those who are dedicated to pursuing a career in the American legal system. Successfully rechartering the Phi Alpha Delta fraternity will also open opportunities that might otherwise be too costly for some students. Such events include travel to D.C. overnight, visiting law schools in the lower and Mid-Atlantic regions of the west coast, potentially travelling to Phi Alpha Delta national headquarters, working with alumni in the legal field, and potentially attending national legal conferences. The Pre-Law Society has hosted similar events in the past, although they have generally been on a small scale. Additionally, the Pre-Law Society has helped organize Law School Admissions Tests (LSATs) and has helped students cover the cost for the rather expensive exam. Chavez and Jones are working to expand the Pre-Law Society, including seeking someone to serve as a liaison between the Phi Alpha Delta fraternity and the more inclusive Pre-Law Society. Additionally, Chavez and Jones are working to install a mock trial team on campus, likely to be attached to the Pre-Law Society, and potentially Phi Alpha Delta as well.

time dues are \$125, they can contact either Chavez or Jones. With COVID-19 placing most of normal campus life on hold, the Pre-Law Society seeks to expand and take full advantage of the incredible Hampden-Sydney alumni network through the inclusion of a Phi Alpha Delta charter. If law is something that holds your attention, consider helping Chavez and Jones in their mission to make the study of law a large part of the Hampden-Sydney experience once again.



Ever wanted to see your name in print?

Write for *The Tiger*.

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NEWS

Town Hall cont'd

to reassess its policies but that he feels the gates are fulfilling their purpose to help prevent the number of visitors on campus.

Several students' concerns over the future of the Classics Department initiated a conversation about academics on campus. With the upcoming retirement of Dr. James Arieti and the planned sabbatical of Dr. Robert Irons, President Stimpert explained the process of hiring new faculty and assured the students that at the very least, a visiting professor would be hired to fill out the Classics Department. (To the Classics students, he noted that "the liberal arts college is Classic's last stand.")

He shared his hope that there would be a plan implemented in the next several years to expand departments and lower the required number of courses taught by each professor, although the exact details are not set in stone. Additionally, he discussed the core curriculum, specifically how its uniqueness makes it difficult to transfer credit from other institutions.

The last major issue arising from student questions was the College's policies relating to COVID-19. He covered everything from sports and graduation to testing plans, vaccination plans, and the current caseload. As many students now know, all athletics have returned, including football.

As with many events involving gatherings of people, however, he did not have an answer on questions of number of spectators or tailgating. Similarly, President Stimpert expressed his hope that both the Class of 2020 and the Class of 2021 graduations would be held in April and May, but asked students to "stay tuned and stand by."

As some of

President Stimpert expressed doubt that vaccinations will be required in the future like random testing is now.

you have surely experienced, weekly testing has made a comeback this semester as part of the College's testing plan. However, President Stimpert

Wealth, Race, and Collective Action: WC, OEI Host Sekou Kaalund '97

JONAH POPP '21
OPINION EDITOR

We here at Hampden-Sydney College are often told that we have all manner of famous and successful alumni, but rarely do we have the opportunity to interact with such an impactful Hampden-Sydney man.

Through a series of unexpected twists and turns, Kaalund eventually found himself managing thirty billion dollars for J.P. Morgan's program entitled "Advancing Black Pathways." Believe it or not, Kaalund started off here at Hampden-Sydney

as a Classics major, studying under the tutelage of none other than our own revered Dr. James Arieti. Like many others here at school, he became involved in leadership at Hampden-Sydney, and he also had the opportunity to study in Spain for a semester.

Kaalund has always had a focus on doing what he can to improve the lives of others. A question he constantly asks himself is: "How can I leverage my life to make an impact on others?" While the classics taught him how to think critically, the rhetoric program taught him how to communicate effectively.

Using those tools, Kaalund sought out the best ways in which he could best make a positive change for others. This path led him to the "Advancing Black Pathways" program, which has a major focus on creating jobs for black students and creating opportunities for

black entrepreneurs. According to the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, as Kaalund pointed, the average net worth of a black family in Boston is \$8, while the

average net worth of a white family in Boston is over \$200,000. There exists a massive discrepancy here, but Kaalund firmly believes that while "talent is created equally, opportunity is not."

Those of us in that Zoom call with Kaalund were blessed with the opportunity of hearing his words of wisdom. Regarding the systemic racism in our country, he advised us to be intentional in connecting with people.

Do not showboat and act "holier than thou" regarding issues of race; rather, broaden your perspectives, learn about other cultures, and make real connections with everyone you meet. Becoming more open-minded is about taking a series of

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Play On: An Update on Sports at Sydney



Van Citters '22

JACOB MYERS '21
SPORTS EDITOR

This past year, undoubtedly, sports of all variations and professional levels have been affected by COVID-19—and many students at Hampden-Sydney including myself are uncertain regarding how sports here will be played. Chad Eisele, Director of H-SC athletics, and the head golf coach provided enlightening information regarding sports amid the pandemic.

Outdoor sports will be played—however, government gathering regulation

presents an issue. In the state of Virginia, a venue cannot exceed 250 people. Furthermore, if the venue is smaller, it cannot hold more than 30% capacity. Eisele stated that if we were to allow fans for outdoor sports, it would of course be limited in capacity.

Indoor sports are not as complicated—however, this is simply because the ODAC is not allowing any spectators for any sport that is played inside. From a public announcement that ODAC posted in January, the decision has been finalized for the health and benefit of the student-athletes.

A list of these indoor sports includes basketball, volleyball, swimming, and indoor track & field.

Lastly, I asked Eisele about how these decisions have affected the players. He responded with this: "I think our teams would be willing to play in a vacuum if that's what it took to play this semester. It would be nice to play in front

of a cheering crowd, but just getting to play is what I think is first and foremost for our student-athletes." He also had some good news regarding these restrictions. The athletic department has

able live to the student body. Of course, this applies to indoor sports as well.

Ultimately, the pandemic has changed how we perceive and act on campus—while sports here are integral to campus culture, the athletic department and ODAC obviously must accommodate for the well-being of the staff and the athletes. It is important to understand this because it is something that does not just apply to sports here at H-SC—we must have the well-being of each other in mind during this pandemic.

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of a cheering crowd, but just getting to play is what I think is first and foremost for our student-athletes."

Student Revives H-SC Young Democrats

JACOB WHITNEY '21
NEWS EDITOR

Many people might see Hampden-Sydney as a conservative bastion, but even good old H-SC has its Democrats, and now the student-run club, the Young Democrats of Hampden-Sydney College, is making a revival. Michael Thornton, Jr. '21, the club president and a key figure in

rebuilding the Young Democrats, shared in a recent interview that he think H-SC needs the Young Democrats back to reinvigorate debates on campus.

As Thornton said, "a lot of guys, if they disagree on politics, just don't talk about it." By establishing a voice for students that goes against the political grain, the Young Democrats President hopes to enliven Hamp-

den-Sydney's debates. The Young Democrats are planning to host their own panels in addition to participating in others on campus. Thornton plans to hold panels on campus to discuss the politics, science, and the economics of climate change, marijuana, mental health awareness, and other sensitive topics.

The Young Democrats club will

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OPINION



Photo courtesy of Pexels

Broken News: Reporters Shouldn't Pick Sides

PATRICK STRITE '24
STAFF WRITER

Conservatives have rightly been calling out media bias since long before current Hampden-Sydney students were born. The problem conservatives have is not that journalists have biases, but the fact that they cannot temper those biases in order to be objective.

Journalists seem to not know how to distinguish between reporting and writing op-eds. The most flagrant offense is that journalists deny ever displaying any bias when confronted on the issue. According to CNN's Chris Cillizza, "Reporters don't root for a side. Period."

Unfortunately for Cillizza, this take adds to his long list of career lowlights; unfortunately for conservatives, the blatant bias and denial from journalists is going nowhere for the next four years.

The past couple weeks have perfectly foreshadowed what can be expected from journalists under the Biden administration. For example, The Washington Post just put out an article about the daily life of dogs in the White House.

John Hardwood stated that "Jen

Psaki is a very disciplined briefer." She'll probably have to circle back to that one, however. CNN Politics said Biden's economic speech "was highly factual, though there are some nuances worth noting."

Molly McKnew tweeted out this banger: "Another A+ for Biden event planners—arriving at Andrews in the low afternoon sun, en route to sunset memorial

of the iceberg. It is this shameless lauding over public figures with whom journalists agree politically that has people genuinely convinced that wearing a tan suit was Obama's only scandal.

It is honestly quite embarrassing for the journalism community. Journalists are supposed to be the watchdogs of society. They are supposed to be the ones holding those in power accountable.

Journalists are supposed to be the watchdogs of society. They are supposed to be the ones holding those in power accountable.

service at the Lincoln Memorial, everything awash in the golden light of nostalgia, hope, better times."

CNN's David Chalian said that National Mall's reflecting pool lights are like "extensions of Joe Biden's arms embracing America." Lauren Wolfe, an editor at the New York Time's Live section, tweeted "Biden's plane landing at Joint Field Andrews. I have chills."

Lastly, it is hard to forget the media fantasizing over Joe Biden's favorite ice cream color. The aforementioned examples of media bias are only the tip

The only people journalists feel the need to hold accountable, however, are conservatives.

For the next four years, this will all continue. It will be the media's treatment of Obama all over again. Hard questions will be few and far between. Articles exploring the story of Biden's dog, finding out his favorite restaurant, congratulating him on how good of a Catholic he is, and admiring the optics of his events will always find their way to be published by the national outlets. But as Chris Cillizza would say, "Reporters don't root for a side," guys.

Young Dems, cont'd

also function as a way for Hampden-Sydney students to learn more about the Democratic party by promoting the party's ideas. Looking forward, the club will take an active role in Farmville's politics by campaigning for a \$15 minimum wage, legalizing marijuana, and establishing greener climate policies.

The Young Democrats club will function as an avenue for students to reach out to other democratic parties and learn more about the national Democratic Party. In addition, the club will help its student members connect with democrat H-SC gradu-

ates. The club will offer workshops to students that to teach them how to make policies more widely accepted.

Its members will not pay dues, and all students are welcome to join. Currently, the club consists of three members, but Thornton hopes to expand it to twenty or even thirty students in the coming year.

Thornton is excited about the prospects for this newly revived club, and he plans to bring it back to what it used to be with the guidance of members of the previous club.

Braxton Marcella, a former Young Democrats member

and H-SC graduate of 2013, has told Thornton about how the club used to host JFK dinners where they would award select student and faculty members who contributed the most to the club that year.

Thornton hopes to accomplish a lot with the organization, but more than anything, he hopes to see the club make positive change in Farmville, because for him, the club goes beyond H-SC: "we have a duty to help others. It's not about you or me, it's about all of us. It's about the community."



Photo by Michael Van Citters

On Schedule: Thoughts on the 4/10 System

MICHAEL HARRIS '22
LIFE EDITOR

It is no secret that the 4 week session has been extremely stressful on Hampden-Sydney's faculty, staff, and students. There seems to be a lot less time on our hands and a lot more tired faces on campus.

While it is evident that the school is trying their best to provide its inhabitants with the proper Hampden Sydney experience, these are unprecedented times that have forced us all to drastically adjust how we live life. One of these changes has been how classes are conducted.

I am referring, of course, to the 4-10 week split of the past two semesters. While the 10 week session has not received many complaints from the student body, the 4 week session

has not been very forgiving. In order to get some student's point of view on this I interviewed our H-SC Student Body President Phil Pullen '21 and a source who wishes to remain unnamed. These two had conflicting views on how the 4-week session has treated them, but both do have sim-

ilar ideas on how to make the 4 week more pleasant for all students.

In the interview with Pullen, he spoke on how much he enjoyed the 4 week session. Having only one class allowed him to keep a tight and free schedule. "Having the same thing everyday can get old, but I have more free time

for working out as well as time to make a solid routine for each day."

The second student I interviewed had a different outlook on the 4-week schedule. In their explanation they laid out their distaste for it. This particular student was enrolled in three courses and found himself having an increased

workload compared to the regular 14 week session. He was not able to get a considerable amount of sleep and found himself scrambling to keep up with the amount of information being thrown at them.

"The 4-week is not practical. Some professors think they can put on 14 weeks of work

in a month and it just doesn't work." Our Student Body President also felt the same in retrospect. Pullen felt like he was not able to gain as much knowledge as he could in the 4 week. He also expressed how the 4-week session cuts into how much time is available for him to complete his senior thesis in the 10-week session. My anonymous interviewee suggests that instead of a 4-10 week split we have a 7-7 week split allowing for equal time in both sets of courses and adding an additional three weeks to the 4 week session so that it is easier to retain information. Pullen suggested that the school should limit the amount of courses a student can take to only two.

It is to be believed that this change will not allow a student

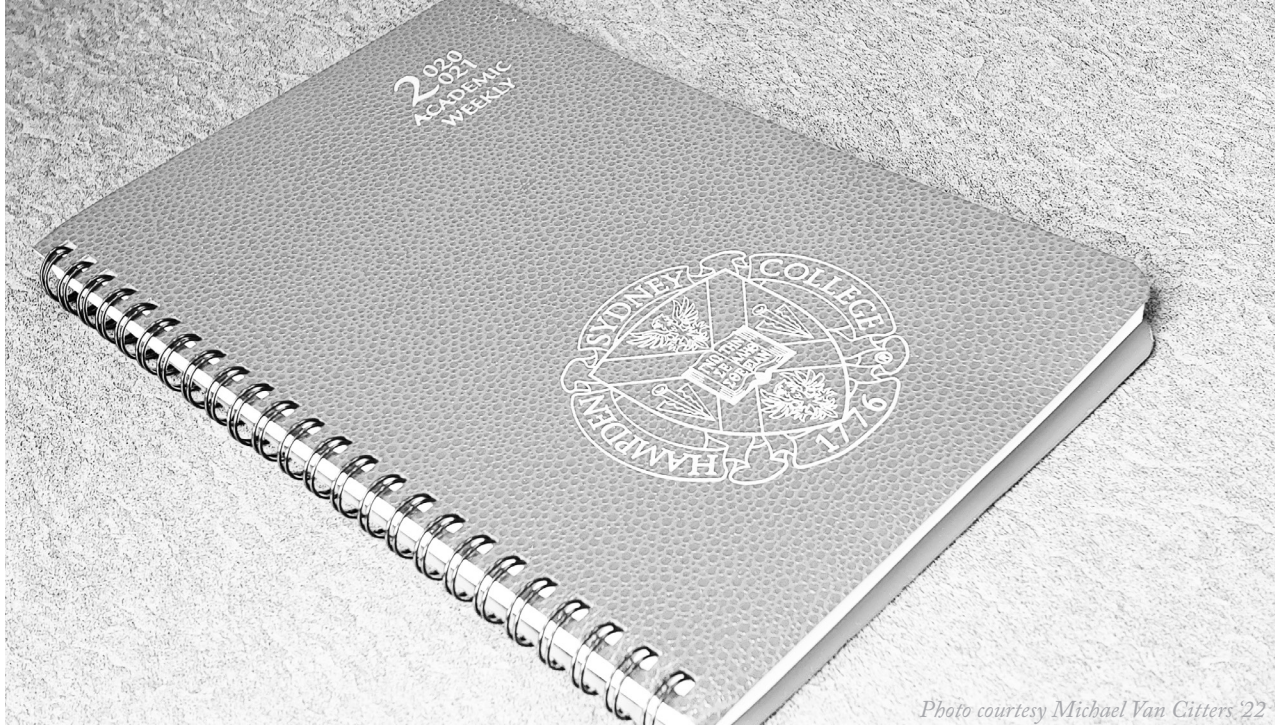


Photo courtesy Michael Van Citters '22

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LIFE

Isolation Frustration: Life in Quarantine inside Venable Hall

BEN OLSEN '22
GUEST WRITER

“You are considered a close contact.” That sentence rang in my ears as I packed my duffel back with enough clothes to last me two weeks. I sent emails to my professors and an email to my boss and loaded my car. For those of you that haven’t been in Venable, it’s a dilapidated maze of confused numbers and rooms. I found my room after wandering the hallways and opened the door to a spartan room with the main occupants being cobwebs and lady bug husks. “It won’t be so bad,” I told myself as I made my bed and unpacked. I was wrong. The first sign of trouble was the turtle-paced WiFi. Trying to text in a GroupMe chat

well as the simple ability to hear what the professor was trying to teach. When a four week semester means that every class counts a little more, the ability to pay attention and learn means more. That ability was hampered all throughout my time in quarantine. Emails and texts were sent to OSA, and the response was quick, but they never seemed to actually fix the problem. Adding to my grim mood was that meals were to be delivered at 8:30am and 12:30pm, just when I was starting classes. I figured I could pick them up after, but I was wrong. The system of delivering food is convoluted. The dining hall sets out the food when they open, bags of the main meal, a sandwich, a salad of some type, water, and dessert. Then it is on

When a four week semester means that every class counts a little more, the ability to pay attention and learn means more.

was a 2-minute affair, and my reception was poor as well; texts stalled out and would not send regularly. The next day’s Zoom meetings came in choppy and frequently would disconnect. The ability to participate in class was greatly hampered by this, as

the backs of student volunteers to shuttle that food to Venable. The first day seemed alright; the food came on time. The second there started to be delays. By Friday, breakfast was 2 hours late, lunch and dinner were 30 minutes late. When you have a class sched-

uled for 12:30pm, the tardiness sometimes means that you do not eat, or that you suffer the cold food. That is to say cold-er food. Even the food delivered on time is almost always cold and due to either a delay at the dining hall, a student volunteer, or the bumpy ride to Venable on the back of a golf cart, the food is all jumbled inside the bag. (This is most notable in the mornings when the juice from the eggs seems to evenly coat the inside of the plastic bag.) The food is

placed by the worker into Venable’s kitchen. Venable’s kitchen for those that don’t know is connected to the Parents and Friends Lounge, where they hold active classes.

People that have come into contact with someone with COVID-19 are walking barely 10 ft away from an active class.

Yes, you read that right. People that have come into contact with someone with COVID-19 are walking barely 10 ft away from an active class.

Not only that, but due to the nature of the kitchen, it means that there is a bottleneck where those in quarantine are brushing up against each other.

Saturday’s food arrived at 12:30pm, almost an hour and a half after the dining hall opened. I took my trip outside through the sleet that was

coming down only to open my box to ice cold eggs and room temperature milk and yogurt. The fat from the bacon was even starting to congeal. My room was conveniently placed right next to a door to the outside, and from dinner time to midnight, there was a constant flow of those in quarantine going in and out. Engines would start and the low drone of tires on asphalt would tell me exactly what they were doing.

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Photo courtesy Michael Van Citters '22

Clothes Make the Man: The Case for an H-SC Dress Code

DANIEL NIVENS '24
STAFF WRITER

In a November 4, 1955 article run by the humour magazine of The Tiger, *Le Tigre*, a group of H-SC men joke that the actual tiger in the class needs to be told that the professor requires a tie. (See below.) No matter what the original meaning of

person you want to be.” What is the ideal of Hampden-Sydney, the man that we all aspire to be? In case you didn’t say it out loud, I’ll give you the answer: “good men and good citizens.” Hampden-Sydney College purports to create men well-suited to the world, well-rounded and shimmering with the magic of a “liberal arts education.”

in an environment of sound learning” through liberal arts. There is another aspect of our culture that also has not changed throughout the ages. And even though it has had its alterations, it has remained remarkably constant compared to other facets of society. This simple, oft-overlooked factor is, of course, men’s business attire.

den-Sydney gentleman should dress nicely for class and public events. We are not likely to do this on our own; it might have to be an effort among professors. Even still, business casual should be the standard for dress on campus. Why?As much as it may be a hassle for that morning class, I return back to Nietzsche and Pe-

Kaalund, cont’d

small actions to educate yourself and make meaningful connections with other people. It is not about taking one major action to call someone out so that you can feel better about yourself. With respect to life both here as a student and somewhere else in our professional lives, Kaalund advised us not to feel the need to prove our talent to anyone. Instead, we ought to do everything with virtue and excellence

simply for the sake of virtue and excellence themselves (a very Socratic idea, I might add). This requires us to work hard at whatever we find ourselves doing, and Kaalund places a high value on simple hard work. Life should not consist of trying to get rich quick, but it should rather consist of working hard and looking for any possibility to make a positive impact in the lives of others.



Photo courtesy @hsctiger100years

the cartoon was, it demonstrates an important, albeit lost, facet to the history of The College: the dress of its students. It was Friedrich Nietzsche who said, “All great men are play actors of their own ideal.” Jordan Peterson rephrased it like this: “Dress like the

A liberal arts education claims to be training us for the jobs not yet created, grounding us in the universal principles of our society and teaching us sound methodology applicable to all fields. All of this is good; Hampden-Sydney surely works to make us “good men and good citizens,

Hampden-Sydney continues to promote the classic blue blazer with khakis and a tie, but only for special occasions. What I propose is not a limited, sporadic approach to good dress. It is also not over the top; coat and tie are not always necessary. Rather, I argue that the Hamp-

terson—we need to dress like who we want to become. If you truly want to be a “good man and good citizen” (which I earnestly hope is the case), the time to start is now. Developing morality and civic virtue is hard; it is a

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SPORTS

MVP, SVP: Who’s the NBA’s Most Valuable Player?

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This 2020-2021 NBA season has been exceptionally exciting—despite the lack of fans in the crowd, a lot of NBA players have taken a step forward. The question is, which players are looking like MVP candidates thus far? Before I get into players and specifics, I think it is important to define how an MVP is chosen in the NBA.

The MVP is both an earned and given award. Much like an Oscar is given for a performance in a movie, the MVP trophy is certainly narrative-based—that is, the media and the fans alike love a good story. Who is leading their team from the gallows? Which player has taken an inspirational step from good to great? Finally, do the statistics match? How about the wins for the team the player is on? All these conditions apply and certainly influence a player’s MVP potentiality. And while no one is certain as

of now, I think I have some good guesses. LeBron James, LA Lakers. This season, LeBron is averaging 25.5 points, 7.7 rebounds, and 7.8 assists through 24 games. Now, while that stat line may not be mind-boggling, one must consider that the man just turned 36. Furthermore, he is having the best shooting season of his career, shooting 41% from three on nearly 7 attempts per game. The Lakers’ overall record is 18-6, with the team again having the best defense in the NBA. At his age, LeBron is playing perhaps the best basketball. While he is

for another title. For someone of his age, it is incredible to witness the level of play. Nikola Jokic, Denver Nuggets. Jokic is perhaps the most shocking on this list—he has always been a great player. However, this season, he is putting up stats that should simply be illegal for a player of his size. Through 22 games, he is averaging 27.2 points, 11.5 rebounds, and 8.6 assists. On nearly 4 attempts a game, he is averaging 3.6 threes. His performances have been incredible thus far—and the reason he is on my list is because of his play, and his play

a do-it-all center that is poised to have one of the most illustrious careers as a center. Kevin Durant, Brooklyn Nets. Honestly, I feel bad for Kevin Durant. The man

simply because statistically and narratively he checks the boxes—he has fully recovered from a gruesome injury and is showing the league he is still the premier offensive talent.

the first round by the Boston Celtics. However, with the signing of Daryl Morey as President of Basketball Operations, he has made sweeping changes that added Seth Curry and Danny Green to provide shooting. Because of this, Embiid finally has space and focus to absolutely dominate opposing teams. His mid-range has been unstoppable as he is shooting nearly 65% on contested jumpers. His rebounding and defense make him eligible for the Defensive Player of the Year Award. Overall, Embiid has been a force to be reckoned with in the NBA—his supporting Sixers cast has benefited from his dominating play, giving him the spacing he needs and keeping the game out of reach when he needs to rest. While the end of the season is still far off, I would put money on Joel Embiid taking the MVP trophy home.

LeBron trusts his teammates, has been absolutely killer in big moments, and is showing the league that he is ready to compete for another title.

not as aggressive, he is cold and calculated in his play. LeBron trusts his teammates, has been absolutely killer in big moments and is showing the league that he is ready to compete

alone. The Nuggets themselves have not been great, showing a 12-10 record thus far. However, he is clearly going to surpass the assist record in a season for big men. He is

suffered an achilles injury and has come back arguably better than ever. In 18 games, he is averaging 29.5 points, 7.4 rebounds, and 5.2 assists. He is shooting a blistering 45% from three on 6 attempts per game—however, his team, like that of Jokic’s team, is not putting up the record to fully support the MVP award. A few weeks ago, the Nets traded a majority of their defensive core to acquire James Harden from the Houston Rockets. Because of this, the Nets are on track to post the worst team defense in NBA history. Despite this, I still add him to the list

Finally, Joel Embiid, Philadelphia 76ers. He is my top choice—of course, I am biased being a Sixers fan. However, right now he is the clear choice despite the previous players. This season, the 7-foot 280-lb big man is averaging 29.3 points, 10.7 rebounds, and 2.9 assists. He is shooting 55% from the field, 39% from three, and 85% from the line. He has also carried this Sixers team to the #1 in the East, with a team record of 17-7. Watching the Sixers this season has been an absolute blast—last season was a total failure as the Sixers were swept in

H-SC-Dress Code, cont’d

process only begun at Hampden-Sydney, not finished. But, treating yourself as if you have already achieved it is much of the battle of getting there. We aspire to the lofty heights; being good is no small task. Frankly, we need all the help we can get. If we start dressing like who we want to become, we may just start acting like that person. If we start acting like them, we might just become them.

4/10 Schedule, cont’d

to be in class for over 6 hours a day as well as force a more careful consideration on which classes can be in the four and ten week period. This way students will hopefully not have to worry about having their most advanced classes being in the 4 week session. It is important to note that the statements made by these students are certainly not a reflection of all members of the community, and it is not the overall opin-

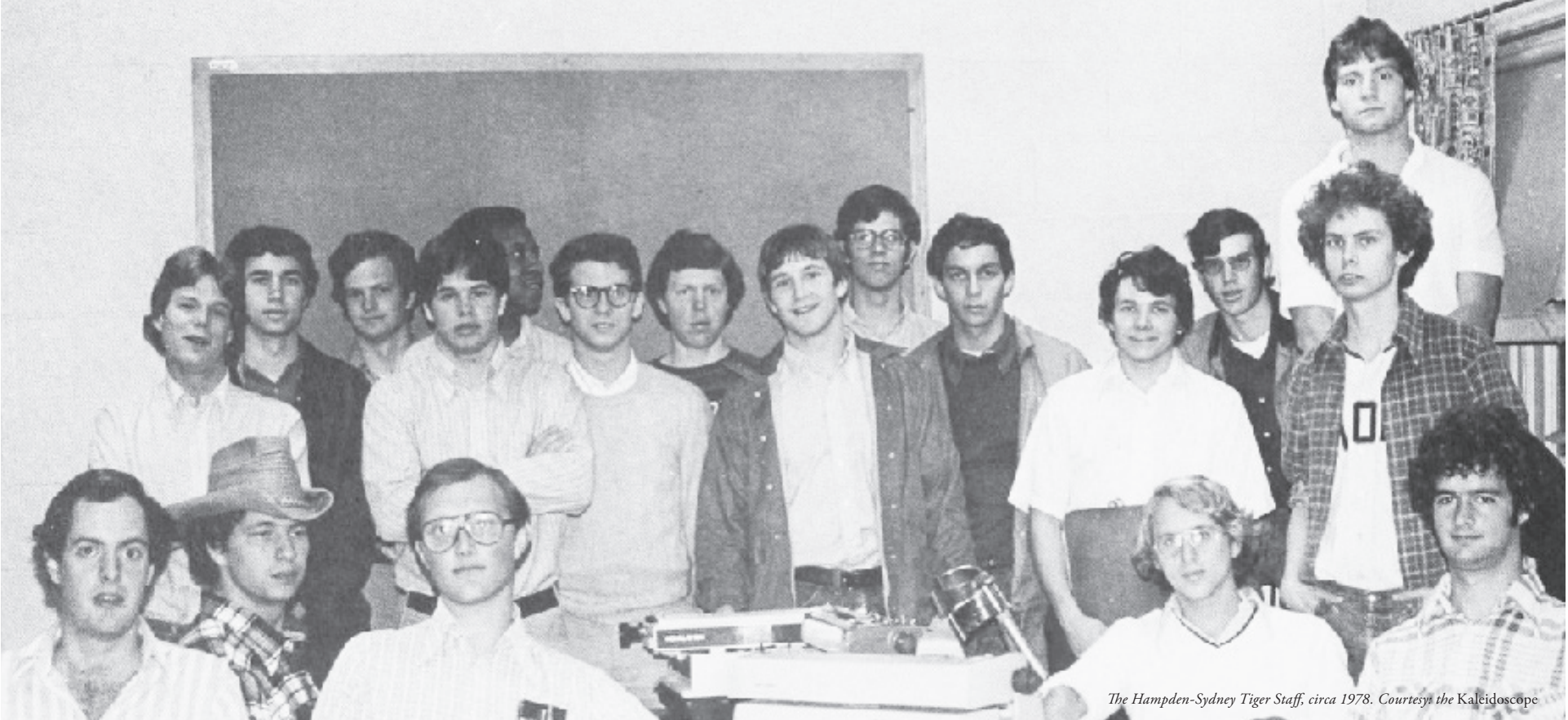
ion of the entire student body, however I believe it is fair to say that there is a certain level of frustration we all feel due to this pandemic and how much it has changed the way we conduct classes on campus. Regardless of how any of us feel we are all still family. It is my hope that the school will continue to look out for the best interests of its staff and the student body so we can remain Hampden Sydney strong. Roll Tigers!

Isolation in Venable, cont’d

Did I blame them? No, the white four walls always seem to close in on you and there is only so much you can do to alleviate the boredom. Many would come back with bags from Cookout or Taco Bell. Did I blame them? No, the cold food almost drove me to leave myself. Those were only the ones that left the dorm. Speakers would be fired up as soon as the sun went down. Moving from room to room and visiting

fellow students was not uncommon and I admit that I did it myself. Masks were worn and for the most part social distancing was upheld but, it was not smart. We were bored and the four white walls don’t seem so depressing when there’s a friend to talk to. I do not think that quarantining is supposed to be an enjoyable experience, but the barriers and inconveniences that added up over two weeks was enough to

make anyone a little stir crazy. Those on the outside must be evermore vigilant to ensure that those on the inside are taken care of. In this dark time, the little light that we can share can light up a whole room. Let’s not forsake those that must go into Venable, let’s help them. They are our brothers,. They are our students. They are not some pariahs to be cast off at the first sign of a cough.



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